THE BREAKER
New Waves

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE YOU. THESE GENTLEMEN ARE THE ELDERS OF THE SUNWOO CLAN.

IT'S AN HONOR. MY NAME IS MIN SA-OAK.

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU. I AM KWON JAE-KYOO.

NOD

I'M JEON JANG-IL.

HONOURED TO MEET YOU.

I AM KIM SUL-JOONG.

H-HOW DO YOU DO, MY NAME IS YI SHIOON.

HAHA... YES, WE HAVE HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU ALREADY.

IN ANY CASE, WE WELCOME YOU ON YOUR ARRIVAL HERE. NOW, WHY DON'T WE EAT, BEFORE WE START OUR TALK?

OI, I HEARD THE STORY MYSELF, BUT DOESN'T HE LOOK A LITTLE TOO FEEBLE?

AH... YES...

WHY?! DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?!

TSK! BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY, MAN!

HE MAY ONLY BE A TEMPORARY HEAD, BUT HOW CAN WE HAVE SUCH A WRETCHED-LOOKING BRAT FILLING IN...

I'M A DOUBTFUL MAN BY NATURE, SO WHY DON'T YOU JUST SHOW ME THE KEEPSAKE FIRST?

BUT AT A PLACE LIKE THIS...

LOOK HERE, JANG-IL!! WHERE ARE YOUR MANNERS?

OH, QUIT YER YAMMERING !

OI, LOOK HERE, BOY!

Y-YES?

AND ISN'T IT MUCH EASIER IF WE FIRST CONFIRM WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONFIRMED?

AH, PLEASE EXCUSE MY RUDENESS. YOU MUST UNDERSTAND. I'M NORMALLY LIKE THIS, AREN'T I?

I, JEON JANG-IL, WILL ONLY BELIEVE MY OWN EYES, AND NOTHING ELSE!

UM, I'VE DEFINITELY CONFIRMED IT. PLUS, THE LADY AS WELL...

HEY! THAT MAY BE GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU, BUT NOT ME!

YES.

UH, BY KEEPSAKE, HE MEANS...?

YOU MEAN THIS?

PLEASE SHOW HIM THE PHOENIX MEDALLION THAT YOU BROUGHT.

OOOOOH~

SOSUL LEFT THIS IN MY KEEPING. AND GYOO-BUM AHJUSSI TOLD ME TO BRING IT, SO...

AH... THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. JUDGING BY ITS BRILLIANT RADIANCE AND QUALITY, IT'S MOST DEFINITELY THE SUNWOO CLAN'S...

MAY I EXAMINE IT CLOSELY?

WE, THE SUNWOO CLAN'S COUNCIL OF ELDERS, BOW BEFORE THE PROOF OF HEADSHIP!

!!

WE BOW BEFORE THE PROOF OF HEADSHIP.

CHE!

THIS PHOENIX MEDALLION IS THE SYMBOL OF THE FULL AUTHORITY OF THE SUNWOO CLAN HEAD. SEEING THE MEDALLION IS THE SAME AS MEETING THE HEAD HIMSELF.

UH, UM... WHAT IS THIS, ALL OF A SUDDEN...

!

WHAT?

IN SHORT, THE LEGITIMATE HOLDER OF THE PHOENIX MEDALLION ALSO HOLDS ALL THE POWERS OF THE SUNWOO CLAN HEAD.

ALL THE POWER AND AUTHORITY OF THE SUNWOO CLAN NOW REST WITH YOU, THE NEW CLAN HEAD.

S-SO, THAT'S WHAT THIS THING MEANS?

DIDN'T I TELL YOU THIS BEFORE? YI SHIOON-NIM, YOU ARE NOW THE NEW HEAD OF THE SUNWOO CLAN.

삐짐

HEY, COULDN'T YOU PIPE DOWN WHILE TALKING TO YOURSELF?

CHE, THE SUNWOO CLAN WILL GO UNDER IN A FLASH, NOW THAT THIS BRAT IS IN CHARGE.

NO.

NOW THEN, LET US RETIRE TO THE TABLE, AND TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE...

WHAT?

THIS THING ISN'T MINE.

IT'S TRUE THAT I GOT THIS FROM SOSUL. BUT SHE PROBABLY GAVE THIS AWAY WITHOUT KNOWING HOW IMPORTANT IT REALLY WAS.

UM, THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED...

GYOO-BUM AHJUSSI, COULD YOU TAKE ME HOME?

HUH?

I AM RETURNING IT TO YOU.

I'LL HEAD DOWN FIRST AND WAIT FOR YOU.

AH... WAIT A MINUTE!

...

PLEASE WAIT! SHIOON-NIM!

THAT WON'T HAPPEN.

I DON'T CARE...

GOOD RIDDANCE, I SAY. IF HE'S GONNA GET HURT OVER A FEW WORDS, HE MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP NOW.

DARN IT! ISN'T THIS ALL BECAUSE OF YOU SAYING ALL THAT NEEDLESS STUFF?

EH? WHAT JUST HAPPENED HERE??

THAT BOY WOULD HAVE REALIZED WHAT THE SUNWOO CLAN IS ALL ABOUT ON HIS JOURNEY HERE.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHY HE'S A BRAT. THE WHOLE IDEA OF GIVING SUCH A POSITION TO A BRAT IS...

JANG-IL, IF YOU WERE IN HIS PLACE, WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO GIVE UP SUCH AN ENORMOUS POSITION OF WEALTH AND POWER, SO EASILY WITH ONLY A FEW WORDS?

WHAT SHOULD WE DO, ELDER KWON? SHALL WE BRING HIM BACK?

NO, IT SEEMS LIKE HE HASN'T MADE UP HIS MIND YET, SO LET'S GIVE HIM MORE TIME.

THE ASTUTE LADY SOSUL HANDPICKED HIM AS A SUBSTITUTE. I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HIM, BUT I'D GUESS THAT HE'S NO PUSHOVER.

BESIDES, WE HAVE URGENT MATTERS OF OUR OWN TO DEAL WITH, DON'T WE?

OF COURSE...

THANKS FOR COMING.

I UNDERSTAND. THEN WE SHALL TAKE OUR LEAVE AT THIS TIME.

WE'VE MET HIM FACE-TO-FACE, SO WE'LL COUNT IT AS OUR OFFICIAL GREETING. AND WE'RE BOUND TO SEE HIM AGAIN SOON...

HAHA...
SO HE SAYS HE'S RETURNING THIS...

SINCE HE, HIMSELF, REFUSES THE POSITION, WHY DON'T WE REJECT HIM?

WHAT AN INTERESTING PERSON WE HAVE NOW AS THE HEAD.

I ALSO DON'T WANT TO KEEP CLEANING UP AFTER THAT LOSER.

DID I SAY I WANTED TO HEAR YOUR OPINION?

HAVE YOU ALREADY FORGOTTEN MY ORDER IN THIS SHORT TIME?

.....

CHE! I HAD NO CHOICE. THOSE BASTARDS PULLED OUT A SWORD WITHOUT ANY WARNING... I COULDN'T JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, I'M CURIOUS AS TO WHY THAT KID DOESN'T LOOK AT ALL LIKE HE'S BEEN ROUGHED UP.

LEAVE HIM ALONE, EXCEPT DON'T LET HIM DIE! 'CUZ WE ONLY NEED THE TITLE OF THE CLAN HEAD!

DO YOU UNDERSTAND? YOU WILL SIMPLY OBSERVE HIM.

SHWAAAA

LEAVE HIM BE!

...

UNTIL HE'S FALLEN SO DEEP, THAT HE BEGS THE SUNWOO CLAN TO SAVE HIS LIFE.

LEAVE HIM BE, UNTIL HE GETS PUSHED SO FAR INTO A CORNER!

YOU CAN DO AT LEAST THAT MUCH FOR YOUR GRANDPA, CAN'T YOU, JINIE?

HEH!

JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS, YI SHIOON-NIM?!

DO YOU STILL NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE THE HEAD OF THE SUNWOO CLAN?

WHAT?

IT WAS BECAUSE OF THE PHOENIX MEDALLION, WASN'T IT?

IT COULDN'T BE... DID YOU RETURN THE PHOENIX MEDALLION BECAUSE YOU WERE AFRAID OF BEING ATTACKED?

THAT'S NOT IT!

THAT'S WHY THE MURIM-IN KEPT ATTACKING ME, RIGHT?

IF NOT, THEN WHAT OTHER REASON COULD THEY HAVE TO ATTACK SOMEONE WHO'S UNRELATED TO THE MURIM?

THEN WHY...?

'CUZ, THAT MEDALLION IS MORE THAN I CAN HANDLE.

I SAW EXACTLY HOW GREAT THE SUNWOO CLAN IS. IF I WERE AFRAID, I WOULD INSTEAD WANT THE SUNWOO CLAN'S HELP.

DOES IT EVEN MAKE SENSE FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME, WHO CAN'T EVEN LEARN MARTIAL ARTS, TO REPRESENT THIS GROUP?

I DON'T WANT TO GET GREEDY AND TAKE ON SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T FIT ME.

PLUS...

I CAN TELL THE SUNWOO CLAN IS VERY PRECIOUS TO THOSE PEOPLE. I THINK THEY CAN TAKE CARE OF THE CLAN BETTER THAN I CAN.

I THINK YOU'RE MISUNDERSTANDING SOMETHING; THE ATTACKS ON SHIOON-NIM HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THE PHOENIX MEDALLION.

!

IN ANY CASE, I'M GLAD I COULD RETURN THAT THING.

SINCE THIS MEANS I'VE CUT ALL POSSIBLE TIES TO THE MURIM.

SHIOON-NIM...

WELL, CONSIDERING THE SIZE OF THE ENTIRE CLAN, THEY COULD BE CALLED "AN EXTREME MINORITY".

TOP SECRET? BUT TONS OF PEOPLE CAME TO MY SCHOOL THAT DAY, DIDN'T THEY?

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE SUNWOO CLAN IS A TOP-SECRET MATTER, EVEN WITHIN THE CLAN. THERE'S NO WAY THAT REGULAR MURIM-IN WOULD KNOW ABOUT IT.

HUH?

RRRRING

FOR NOW, IT MAY BE NOTHING MORE THAN MERE COINCIDENCES, BUT...

ACCORDING TO MY INVESTIGATION, THOSE COMING AFTER YOU ALL HAVE HAD SOME CONNECTION TO GOOMOONRYONG.

I HAVE FOUND NO OTHER COMMONALITIES BETWEEN THEM.

YES... YES.

I UNDER-STAND.

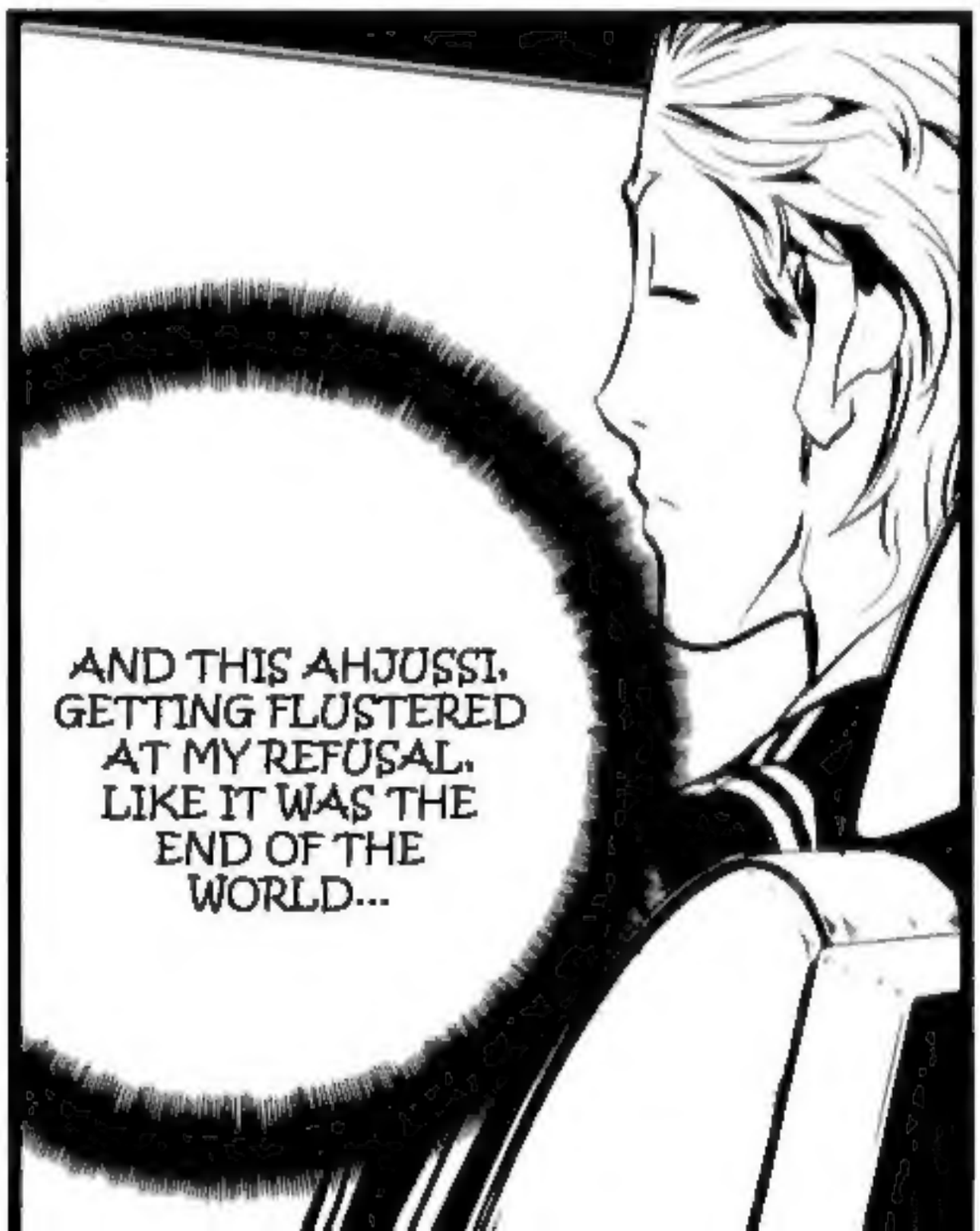
DID HE JUST ASK FOR MY PERMISSION ...?

AH, MAY I...?

HUH? YES...

THAT WAS FROM THE ELDERS. THEY ASKED ME TO SEE YOU SAFELY BACK, NOW THAT THEY HAVE GREETED YOU.

113


AND THIS AHJUSSI. GETTING FLUSTERED AT MY REFUSAL. LIKE IT WAS THE END OF THE WORLD...

FROM SEEING THAT MANSION, OR THE PEOPLE, THE HEAD POSITION IS OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING ENORMOUS. SO WHY INSIST ON HAVING A KID LIKE ME...

I HAVE NO CLUE WHAT THEYRE THINKING. I TOLD THEM CLEARLY THAT I DON'T WANT TO. BUT THEY WANT TO FORCE ME...

WE'VE ARRIVED, SHIOON-NIM.

AND HIS GRACIOUSNESS IS A LITTLE HARD TO GET USED TO.

!

SO, I SINCERELY HOPE YOU'D THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT IT.

I BELIEVE THE ELDERS WILL GIVE YOU MORE TIME TO RECONSIDER, FOR NOW.

GYOO-BUM AHJUSSI, IT'S STILL THE SAME NO MATTER HOW HARD I THINK ABOUT IT. I DON'T WANT TO BECOME A CLAN HEAD, OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

I SWORE A PROMISE TO LADY SOSUL.

THAT I'D SUPPORT YOU AND ASSIST YOU, UNTIL THE DAY SHE RETURNS.

I AM A RETAINER OF THE SUNWOO CLAN, AND I WILL KEEP MY PROMISE TO MY LORD AND MASTER, PUTTING MY LIFE ON THE LINE.

UNDERCOVER SECURITY?

NOW THAT WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE IN DANGER,

YOU WILL HAVE MORE UNDERCOVER SECURITY, STARTING TOMORROW.

OH, YES.

YOU'VE HAD A ROUGH DAY. I WISH YOU A PEACEFUL NIGHT.

YES, THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.

[*— NOT A TYPO; THIS IS HER UNDERCOVER NAME.]

EVERYONE, THIS IS THE NEW TRANSFER STUDENT, MISS KWON JIN-HEE*.

SLUMP-

LOOKS LIKE A TOTAL DELINQUENT, RIGHT?

SHE'S BEEN LIVING OVERSEAS, SO SHE'LL NEED A LOT OF HELP....

THIS SCENE... WHY DOES IT SEEM SO FAMILIAR?

YO! WHAT'S UP WITH HER?

WHISPER WHISPER